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dreaming! But, come, hurry into your clothes, for breakfast is almost ready."

But the governess had the biggest surprise of her life when she next went into Princess Patricia's room and heard her busily repeating the word "good-by" over and over again until she was fully awake.

At the breakfast table, both the Prince and Princess told the whole story of their wonderful trip to the Rajah's Rug with their Flower Folks and fairy Moon Queen, but everybody merely laughed and said, "Oh, you young folks were only DREAMING and happened to have the same dream at the same time!"

Suddenly, Prince Philip clapped his hands together joyously and exclaimed: "But we can prove it by the MAGIC MIRRORS! Why hadn't I thought of them before!"

Then he told of the funny mirrors that Moon Queen had sent to the Moon Flower Arbor. Still, even father and mother continued to laugh, but when they finally went to the Arbor to investigate—sure enough, there were the Magic Mirrors!

"Well, I suppose that you and Patricia win," laughed father, as he looked at himself in the "skinny" Mirror. "Here's fifty cents for ice cream—and be sure and get some for the FAIRY!"

THE END.

"Oh, you needn't say good-by to them," replied Moon Queen. "Both of them will be out in the flower garden later this morning, but I must now say good-by to all of you and hope to be with you at some other time."

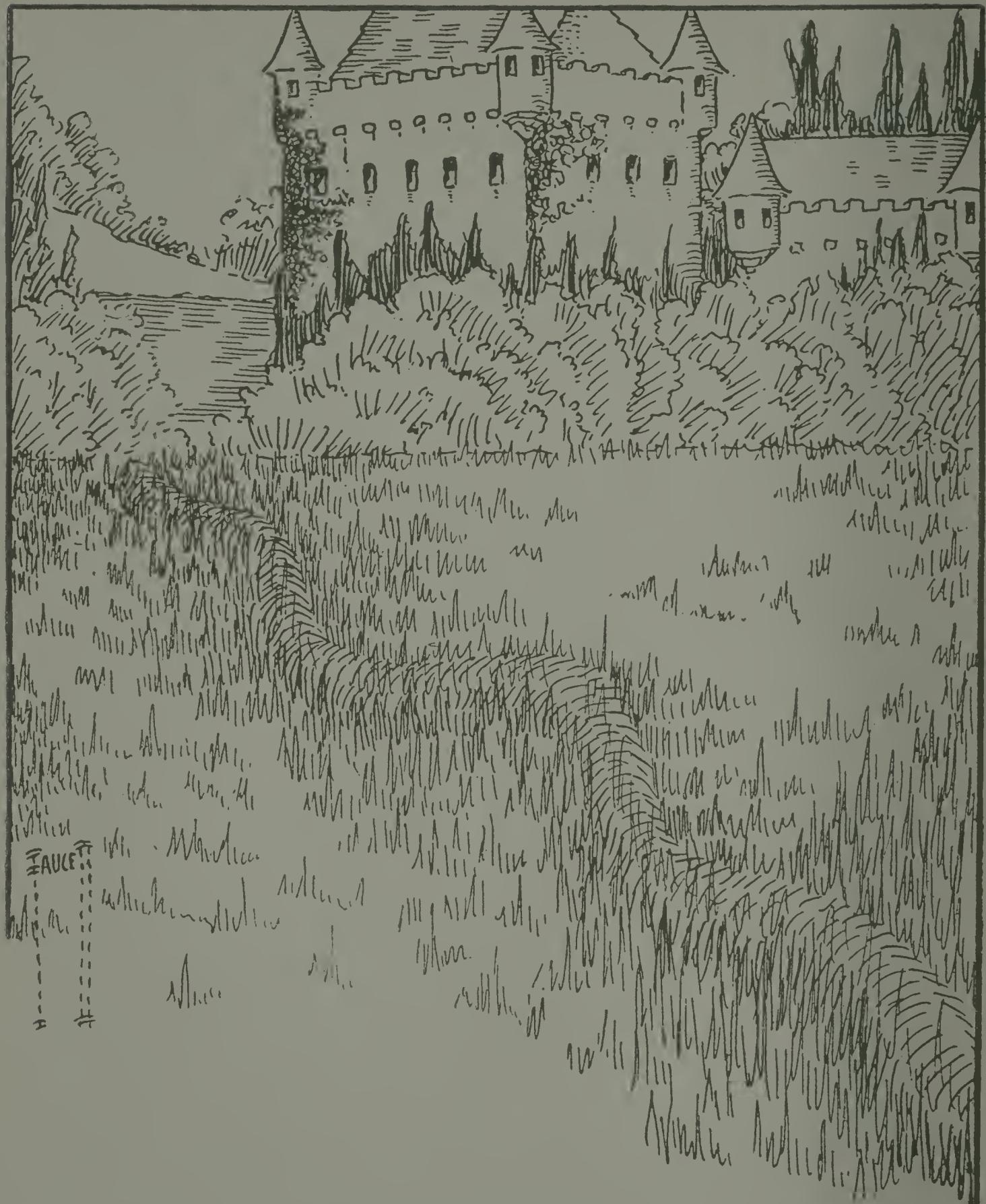
Just at this moment, the wand-star became so dazzling that nothing else could be seen in the garden. Then, just as suddenly, the air became very hazy and when it cleared again the flowers were no longer little people. They were nodding in their beds, and so were the Prince and Princess sound asleep in theirs, while the good fairy was nowhere to be seen. She had gone back to her home in the moon. A long ridge of raised earth showed that Matthew Mole had dug one of his famous tunnels just underneath the grass and was again busily searching for Cut-worms and Beetles.

"Good-by, good-by, good-by, good-by," the Prince was repeating when the governess went into his room to awaken him for breakfast. Then he blinked his eyes and looked about the room in a bewildered sort of way.

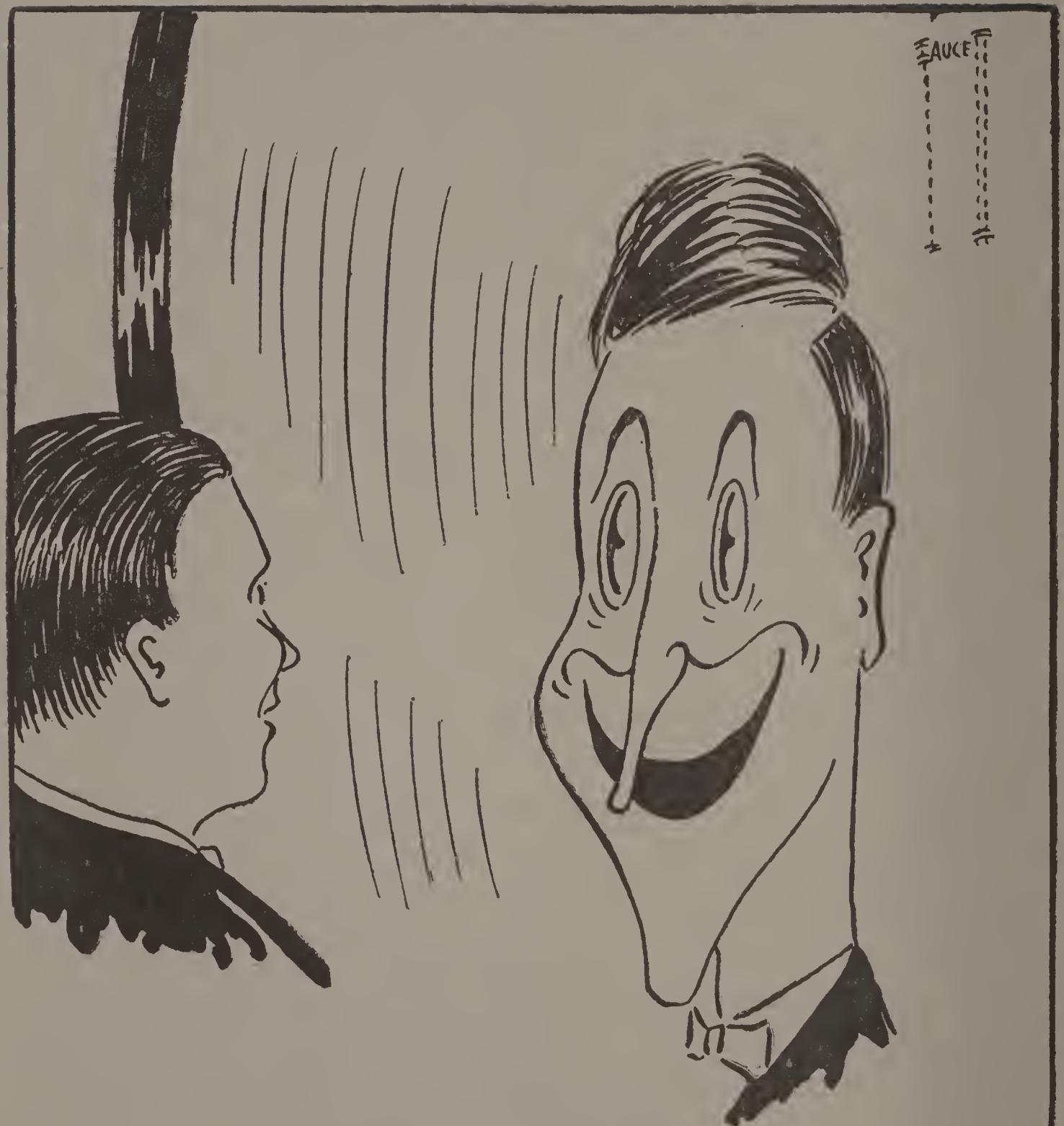
"Wake up, you must be dreaming about something," said the governess, as she shook Prince Philip and then laughed heartily when he exclaimed:

"I don't want you—I was only saying good-by to the fairy!"

"Ha! ha! you were saying good-by to a FAIRY!" she returned with a laugh. "Now I know that you were



A LONG RIDGE OF RAISED EARTH SHOWED
THAT MATTHEW MOLE HAD DUG ONE OF HIS FAMOUS
TUNNELS JUST UNDERNEATH THE GRASS.



FATHER LAUGHED AT HIMSELF IN THE "SKINNY" MIRROR.

“We thank you for the rides,
We thank you much besides;
We’re thankful, and you know
We’re sorry you must go!”

As if in reply to their thanks, Even Steven’s huge wings began to hum a curious sort of song and the basket rose into the air, where it was soon lost to sight among the many small clouds that hovered about in the sky.

“And now it is time for us to bid each other good-by,” continued Moon Queen. “You will notice that Solomon Sun is painting the small clouds with his yellow and orange colors, so he will soon be up and doing what he can to make the old world brighter.”

“But before we go, I’m sure that the Princess and I can never thank you enough for letting us meet our flowers as real folks,” said Prince Philip. “We shall always think of them as little people.”

“And always continue to love them better than ever,” added Princess Patricia.

“Now, please don’t forget that we Flower Folks are also very grateful for all that has been done for us,” spoke up Rufus Rose. “For once in our lives we have been REAL people, although we do feel and see far more than anybody would think, even when we are resting in our beds. And we are so happy to have become so much better acquainted with our master and mistress. We don’t like to say good-by to them.”



"OUCH! SOMETHING IS TRYING TO BITE ME!"
SHOUTED RUFUS ROSE.

They had scarcely ceased singing when something very funny happened. Rufus Rose suddenly began to slap the top of his head with both of his hands and shouted: "Ouch! something is trying to bite me!"

"Ho! ho! that's the best joke yet!" laughed Caleb Cactus, as he stood directly behind Rufus and held his fat sides that were shaking with laughter. "Why, that's only your friend, Henrietta Humming-bird. She tried to kiss your cheek and you were bobbing around so lively that her long beak pecked you on the forehead! You scared her so that she may never come back to catch the tiny bugs that so often worry you. Henrietta and Lois Ladybird are two of the best friends that you have, as Lois also eats the tiniest of tiny insects that must be looked at with a magnifying glass. Now, aren't you ashamed of yourself?"

"Oh, of course, I didn't dream that it was Henrietta Humming-bird," replied Rufus. "The next time I see her I shall beg her pardon for being so frightened and rude."

Everybody joined in the hearty laugh that followed this remark, as it was so funny to hear Rufus acknowledge that he had been frightened by a tiny Hummingbird who was really his best friend. Then the huge wings of Even Steven began to buzz louder and the basket was lifted from the Rajah's Rug. They were on their way back to Carol Castle. Over forest and field they con-

CHAPTER XII.

THE FUN CONTINUES.

“We must now hurry back to the flower garden, for the eastern sky is getting brighter, which means that daylight will soon be here,” said Moon Queen. “All of you are due in your beds before sunrise, so I shall call Even Steven to give us another ride. But here he comes now,” she added, as a loud buzzing sound was heard and the basket of the Ramble-Along dropped easily upon the Rajah’s Rug, while the huge Bumblebee above it kept his wings moving just enough to remain in the air.

After the jolly party had climbed into the basket, the fairy said: “Now that we are through with the Rajah’s Rug, I’m sure that each of us wish to thank the good Rajah for his kindness. Now, all together, let us sing a nice little song to him.”

Using her wand as a musician’s baton, Moon Queen led them in singing:

“Rajah, off on India’s shore,
We would thank you more and more
For the Rug you sent tonight—
It has brought us much delight!

the BEAUTIFUL flower back with you or not!" chuckled Guy Geranium.

"Perhaps the cow will tell you about that, for she was just as close to it as I was," returned Caleb. "Maybe some of you fast and brave runners can catch her and make her give you this most important information!"

"Huh! we couldn't catch her in a thousand years," said Guy. "She'll run the rest of her life after getting all stuck-up on those spines of yours!"

the frightened cow, she was making the longest leaps that she could and swinging her tail about in a frantic sort of way.

“Ha! ha! your stickers came in handy, after all!” laughed Rufus Rose and Danny Dandelion, who had been trying their best to keep up with Caleb as he rode along on the cow’s nose, for they had ventured to the edge of the Rug but didn’t step upon the grass.

“Yes, you got a dandy ride while we had to run back,” added Danny.

“But how on earth did Caleb ever get on the cow’s nose?” asked Penelope Pansy, as the spiny little fellow arose to his feet and smiled good-naturedly.

“I’ll tell you exactly how it happened,” replied Caleb himself. “While high up in the Whirly Wheel, I happened to see a beautiful flower which I thought fairy Moon Queen would wish to take back to the garden at Carol Castle. When we came down I went over in the direction in which I had seen the flower. Rufus and Danny also went along. They promised to wait for me at the edge of the Rug, but I hadn’t gone far before I suddenly felt a big nose touch my back. Then I felt it push against me still harder as the cow jumped and I found myself sticking right on her nose. You know the rest of the story, all right.”

“Yes, we remember very well how you yelled for help, but you have forgotten to tell us whether you brought

SAUCE?

HELP!

MOO!

CALEB WAS STUCK ON THE COW'S NOSE.

Almost instantly, what seemed to be a loud clap of thunder was heard and the Whirly Wheel disappeared in a cloud of whirling smoke. Then, just as suddenly, loud cries of "Help! help! help!" were heard in the distance. Nearer and nearer came the sound of these distressing cries, until the happy party was thrown into a panic of fright when they saw a big creature dashing straight toward them. And hanging on the creature's nose was Caleb Cactus, who was waving his arms and legs and shouting for help just as loud as he could.

"Why, it's only a cow and she is as badly scared as Caleb," laughed Moon Queen. "Don't be frightened at all, for it's just a good joke on the spiny little fellow. I had expected him to get into some funny trouble when I saw him walk away from us and finally step from the Rajah's Rug into the surrounding grass. You see, it doesn't pay to be too venturesome and—"

Just at this moment the fairy was interrupted when the cow gave a very loud moo and swung her head from side to side so violently that Caleb flew from her nose and landed squarely among the other Flower Folks. And then—such scrambling you never saw in all your life, for everybody was trying to avoid coming in contact with Caleb's sharp spines. But, fortunately for all, he landed in an open space on the Rajah's Rug and after rolling over and over several times he finally came to a complete stop, none the worse for his wild ride. The last seen of

haven't been anywhere except for a long ride on this big Whirly Wheel and Polly Poppy then put you to sleep!"

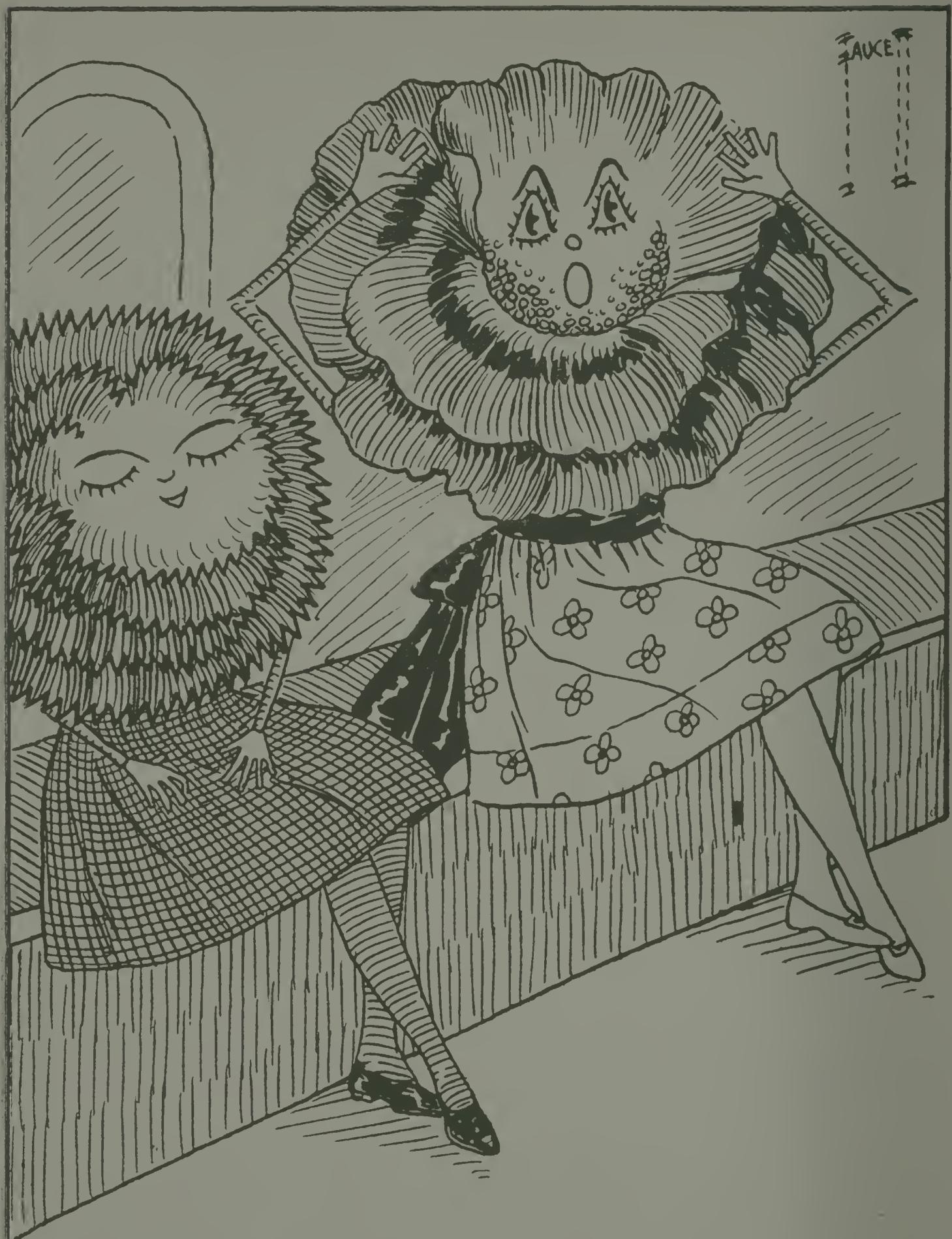
"Yes, that is what happened," said the fairy. "Without the kind genie's help you would still be snoozing, as you know very well that the opium and morphine carried by Polly causes a long sleep that has many funny dreams — 'pipe-dreams,' they are often called. You see, the Rajah's Rug genie is from India, and that far-away country has more poppies than any other place in the world. So it was easy for him to know how to awaken the girls."

"But why did we dream about meeting Polly's cousins in China, instead of those in India?" asked Sally.

"Oh, that was because so many people think that the Chinese people raise the most poppies, but they really have very few of them when compared to India, Persia and Turkey," replied Moon Queen. "Anyway, our dreams are often just opposite to what is actually true, although they do seem so real to us before we awaken. However, let us go on with our fun, as it isn't long until we must hurry back to the garden at Carol Castle. The genie is still hovering above us, so I'll ask him to remove the Whirly Wheel before he leaves again."

The fairy pointed her wand-star upward and began to chant:

"Genie, take the Whirly Wheel
Back into the Land of Weal;
Thank you for providing it—
We had great fun while riding it!"



POLLY POPPY'S BIG EYES POPPED WIDE OPEN -
PEGGY PINK SLEPT ON.

CHAPTER XI.

CALEB'S WILD RIDE.

THE rest of the party gathered closely about the sleeping Flower Folks, as Moon Queen said:

“Eeny, meeny, miny, meeny!
Rajah’s Rug, please send your genie
To wake up these sleeping girlies
Who now have the wheely whirlies!”

Just as the last word was said, Polly Poppy’s big eyes popped wide open. “Oh, wasn’t that a nice ride to China!” she exclaimed. “I was so glad to meet my Chinese cousins, and so were Sally and Peggy.”

Then Sally Sunflower’s eyelids began to blink. Finally, she opened her eyes and said: “All of you missed something. Polly gave us a wonderful treat—she took us to China with her!”

“Indeed it was wonderful!” added Peggy Pink, as her eyes flew open and blinked for a moment in the brilliant light of the wand-star.

“Ho! ho! that was nothing but a pipe-dream for the three of you!” laughed Sweet William. “Why, you

“You boys are always trying to play word jokes on each other, but we are now interested in awakening these three girls, so I had better get busy with that,” said Moon Queen. “Of course, they would naturally awake in a few hours, yet we haven’t any time to waste in waiting. I shall call the kind genie to help us open their eyes. I’m sure that he is much stronger than the morphine power that is holding their eyelids together so tightly. It’s lucky that we are still on the wonderful Rajah’s Rug, or I would have to send for the Eeny Weeny and that would take a much longer time.”

“Yes, I remember that the good Eeny Weeny came to see Clarence Corn after he was bitten by Christy Crow,” remarked Matthew Mole. “The vegetable folks were very grateful to her, I am sure.”

their turn, but when the last one was opened nobody came out of it. The three girls inside were sound asleep!

“Hey, wake up there, girls, or we may go on and leave you to finish your nap while we’re having some more fun!” shouted Henry Hollyhock, as he used his hands for a megaphone that carried the sound of his voice directly into the ears of the sleeping girls.

But neither Sally Sunflower, Peggy Pink nor Polly Poppy moved an eyelid. They really seemed to snore louder than ever.

“Oh, let’s go, they are only trying to fool us,” said Rufus Rose. “Nobody could sleep after Henry’s loud voice has beat upon their ear-drums, so the joke will be on them, after all!”

“No, the joke is really on you Flower Folks, for the girls happen to be so sound asleep that the loudest calling will not awaken them,” laughed fairy Moon Queen. “Haven’t you stopped to think that Polly Poppy was closed up in the car with them? You know very well that she puts people to sleep when they get too near her, and sometimes they never wake up again.”

“Well, Polly got a dose of her own medicine this time, didn’t she?” remarked Caleb Cactus. “Why, she is sleeping just as soundly as Peggy and Sally.”

“Ha! ha! you wake people up instead of putting them to sleep, don’t you, Caleb?” laughed Claude Carnation. “See how lively Rufus Rose and I are after being in the car with you!”

"Oh, you may squeeze in our car next to Caleb Cactus," laughed Rufus Rose.

"No, sirree, Matthew must ride with us," said Prince Philip, whose car had traveled around and was then almost at its lowest position again.

"Yes, indeed, there is a place for him in our car, and he may sit on the outside so that he can see everything," added the Princess. "Matthew shall not be left behind, as he never has a chance to look down upon the earth and see the many interesting things there. Instead of that he must run around in his dark tunnels almost all the time."

Matthew quickly climbed into the Prince's car and when Moon Queen waved her wand in a circle the big Whirly Wheel began to move once more. Faster and faster it went, the big cars swinging backward and forward with an easy motion and causing a loud buzzing sound as they whizzed through the air. Inside of them the little folks were having the time of their lives and the many happy laughs that floated out into the still night air showed how much everybody was enjoying the novel and exciting ride.

After the Whirly Wheel had been running at full speed for several minutes, it began to slow down and finally stopped when the car of the Prince and Princess was in position for them to step out upon the Rajah's Rug. The other seven cars were then moved around in

Philip, as he shaded his eyes with his hand in an effort to see the top of the wonderful wheel.

"Perhaps they are for people to ride in," suggested the Princess. "Don't you remember that we saw something like this at the fair last year?"

"Oh, yes, they called it a Ferris Wheel and it wasn't near as large as this one," replied the Prince. "But what puzzles me is where on earth this big thing came from and how it happens to stand upon the Rajah's Rug without mashing it into the ground?"

"Well, let's not worry about that," laughed Moon Queen. "The Whirly Wheel is here for us to use, and I'll give you and Princess Patricia the honor of getting into this first car at the bottom of the Wheel. The Princess guessed right when she suggested that these seats are to ride in, so everybody get aboard and have all the fun that you can, but don't do any careless stunts or somebody may be hurt."

After the Prince and Princess had seated themselves, the huge Whirly Wheel began to turn slowly until the next car was low enough for three of the Flower Folks to get into it. One after the other the cars were moved to their lowest positions and soon each of them were full of the happy young people.

"Well, where am I going to ride?" asked little Matthew Mole. "All the cars are filled and I'm left in the lurch, I suppose!"

CHAPTER X.

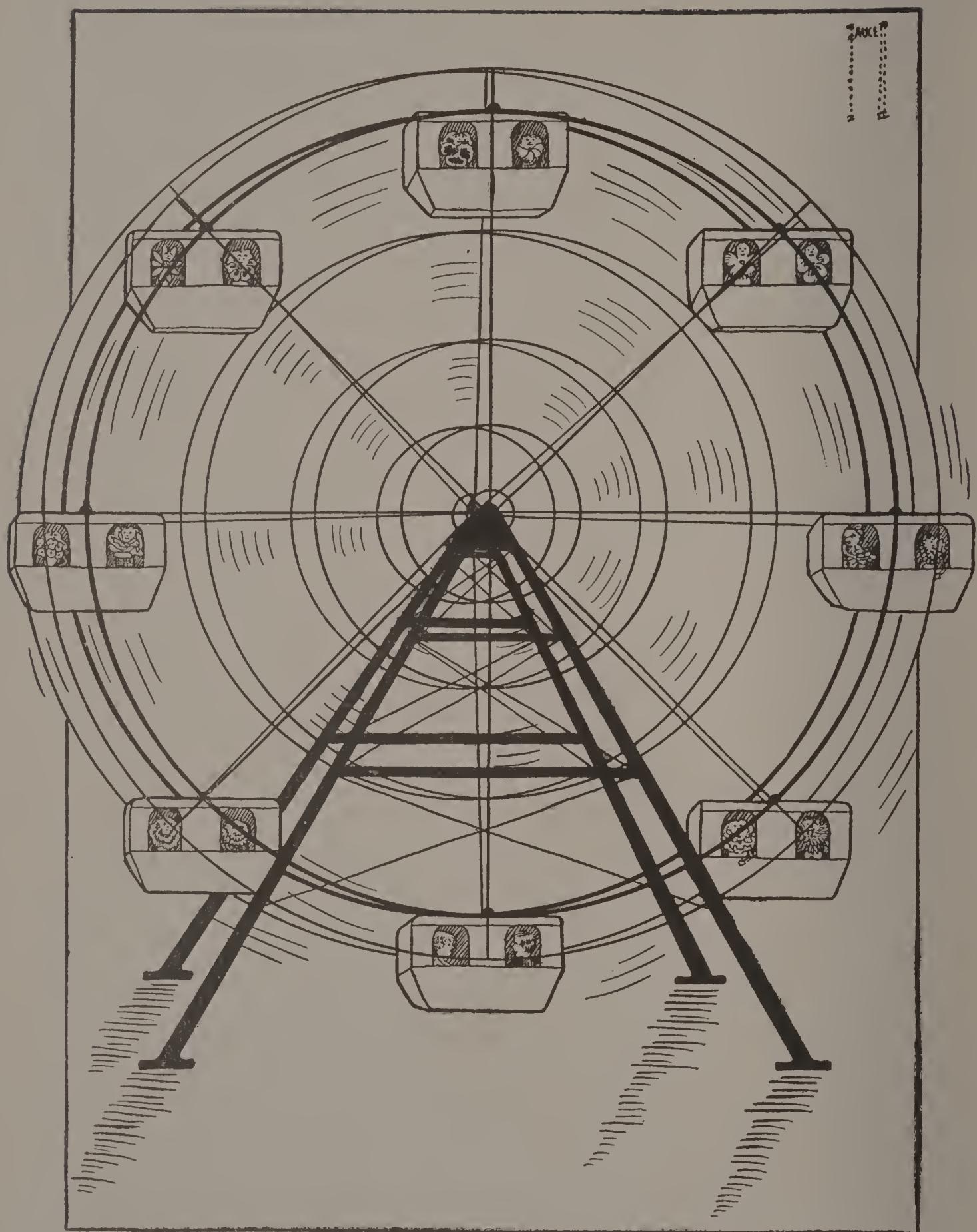
AROUND AND AROUND.

WITH the Magic Mirrors gone, the Rajah's Rug looked very plain again, but it was not to remain this way any longer than the fairy could wave her wand and sing:

“Rajah’s Rug, somehow we feel
That we wish a Whirly Wheel,
Send it to us right away
Before the night turns into day!”

Instantly, the wand-star flashed off and then on again so quickly that it seemed as if something had exploded, although there was no noise. In fact, it was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. The quick changes of light and dark caused the entire party of young folks to blink their eyes so rapidly that they couldn’t see what was happening. When their eyelids finally stopped jumping up and down, everybody was surprised to see a huge wheel standing right above their heads. It was the Whirly Wheel.

“Why, it seems to have seats on it,” remarked Prince



RIDING IN THE WHIRLY WHEEL.

And just as she said each word, the outlines of each mirror become more dim, until finally the last word caused them to disappear altogether. They had gone to the Moon Flower Arbor at Carol Castle—the genie had whisked them there quicker than it takes to tell it.

to be a funny sort of animal boxer when he stood erect.

"Now that we have had our fun with the Magic Mirrors, I suppose it is about time for us to find something else interesting," said the fairy.

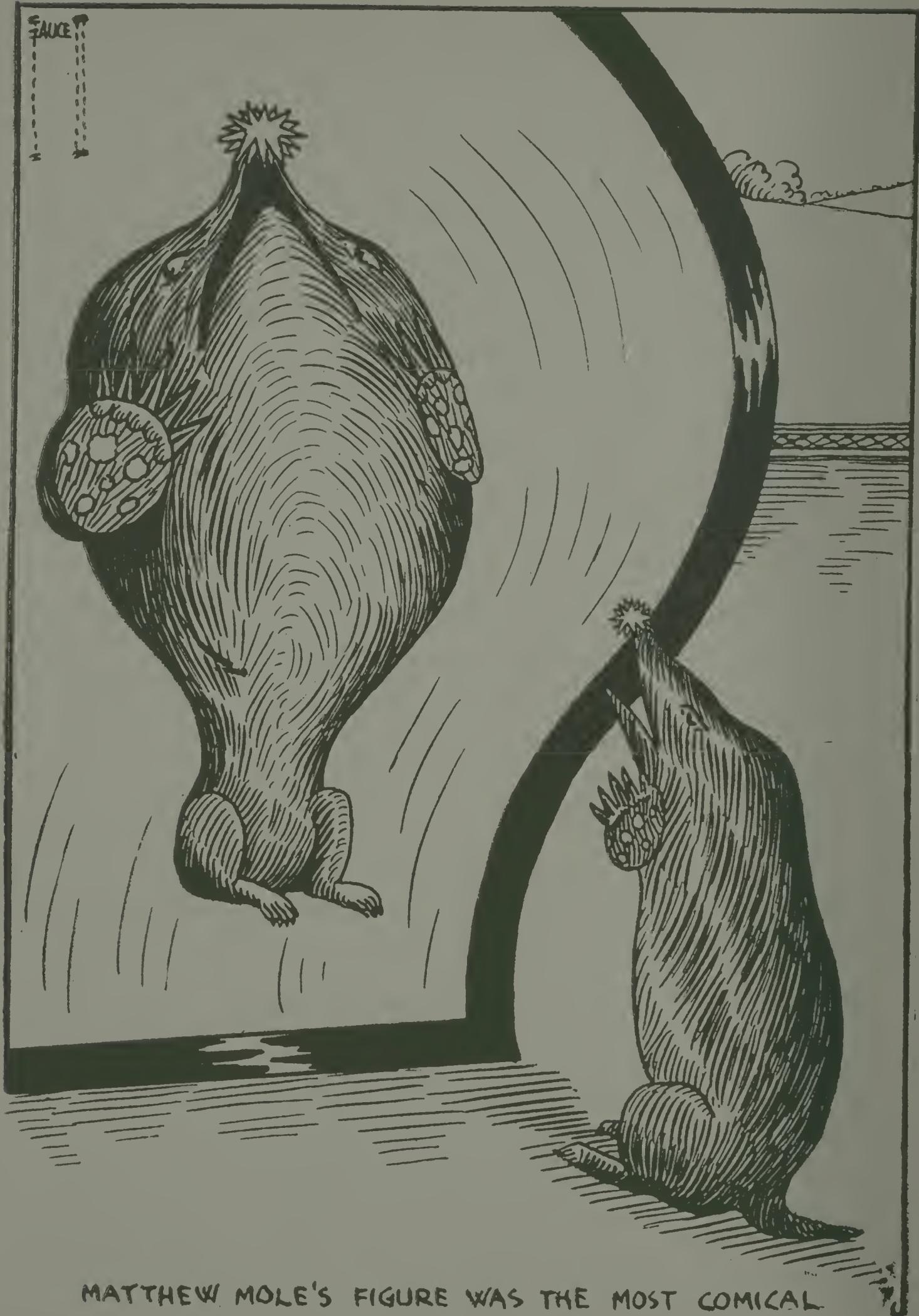
"Why, I don't see anything except the Rajah's Rug," spoke up the Princess. "Will the Magic Mirrors remain here to give us some more fun, or shall we take them back to Carol Castle with us?"

"Yes, please let us carry them home, for I'm sure that we could have lots of fun with them," added the Prince, a note of high interest in his voice showing how anxious he was to see how some of his little friends would enjoy such an attraction.

"Indeed, that's a very good idea," replied the fairy. "There is plenty of room for them under the Moon Flower Arbor in your garden. Perhaps you will be glad to keep them as souvenirs of the adventures and fun that you have enjoyed tonight. Yes, indeed, you shall have them in just a minute."

Moon Queen then began to move her gauzy wings and gently arose into the air far enough for her wand-star to touch the top of the center mirror. Then she began to say:

"Genie of the Rajah's Rug,
Make these Magic Mirrors snug
In the Castle's Garden, where
They can prove that I was there!"



MATTHEW MOLE'S FIGURE WAS THE MOST COMICAL

“Now, turn around and look in this other mirror and you’ll see yourself as skinny as a string bean, just as I told you a minute ago,” said Danny. “You are looking in the wrong mirror, please remember.”

“Anything to oblige the crowd,” replied Caleb, with a more cheerful smile, as he turned toward the mirror that had made him appear so skinny. “I seem to be the center of attraction, all right, but I notice that all of you also have rather funny figures in these mirrors, so I’m not the only one that’s out of shape. It’s something funny in the glass that makes us look like monkeys!”

“Yes, they are the Magic Mirrors which were sent to us by the Rajah’s favorite genie, and you’ll notice that some of them will make you seem more comical than the two into which Caleb has looked,” said Moon Queen.

Sure enough when Penelope Pansy glanced into one of the others she was surprised to see that the upper part of her body was real skinny, while the other part was fat. Even the Prince and Princess had a peep into each mirror and enjoyed the fun just as much as anybody. After all had seen themselves in the several Magic Mirrors, everybody declared that Matthew Mole’s figure was the most comical, especially when he looked into the one that caused his head and shoulders to be very fat and large, the rest of his body being exceedingly thin. The little fellow actually laughed at himself, as his shoulders are naturally large in proportion to his size, so he appeared

However, now that the Witching Wave surprise is over, let us see what other interesting things that the Rajah's Rug has in store for us."

She had no sooner spoken these words than she dipped her wand-star downward and it suddenly lost all its brilliant light. Then, just as suddenly, it flashed on again and standing before them were several curious mirrors. These odd looking-glasses were of different sizes and shapes, so nobody in the jolly party was aware that they were really mirrors until Caleb Cactus happened to step in front of one of them. Caleb didn't realize what was happening to him until Danny Dandelion shouted:

"Ha! ha! Quick! everybody look how **SKINNY** Caleb is! Why, the poor fellow is nothing but skin and bones now and he was the fattest one in the crowd just a minute ago!"

"What's all the laughing about—I haven't changed any?" said Caleb.

"Take a look in that mirror and you'll at least **CHANGE** your mind!" laughed Danny.

But Caleb turned and glanced into a different mirror. He could scarcely believe what he saw.

"Why, instead of being skinny, I'm ten times fatter than I ever was and look as flat as a turnip!" he exclaimed in amazement, as the rest of the party joined in another hearty laugh and began to gather about him to get a closer view of Caleb's comical figure.



"I'M TEN TIMES FATTER THAN I EVER
WAS!" EXCLAIMED CALEB.

CHAPTER IX.

THE COMICAL PEOPLE.

“Hooray! that was some fun!” exclaimed Rufus Rose, after he had recovered his breath. “Why, I had no idea that fat Caleb Cactus could run so fast. Huh! if that fellow keeps on improving he may soon get in the HUMAN RACE!”

“And you had better be glad that he wasn’t next to you this time,” added Henry Hollyhock. “Just take a good look and see how he scratched me with those sharp spines of his. I certainly agree with what you suggested about Caleb going to the barber. The quicker he gets them trimmed, the better I will like it and him, too!”

“Oh, that wouldn’t do at all,” spoke up Prince Philip. “Why, Caleb couldn’t look natural without his spines. Most anybody would think that he was a curious sort of cucumber, instead of a flower. Rough as he seems to be, I want him to always remain the same Caleb Cactus in our flower garden.”

“Yes, we wish all of our Flower Folk friends to remain just as we always have known them,” added the Princess.

“That’s a very good thought,” said the fairy. “We should never expect or wish to see our friends change.

became just as flat as any other part of the beautiful silk covering upon which the Prince and Princess and the Flower Folks were then standing. And, of course, little Matthew Mole was there, too, as fairy Moon Queen gracefully alighted before them.

laughing at the efforts of the boys and girls, as they scrambled along in a good natured sort of way and endeavored to keep upon their feet.

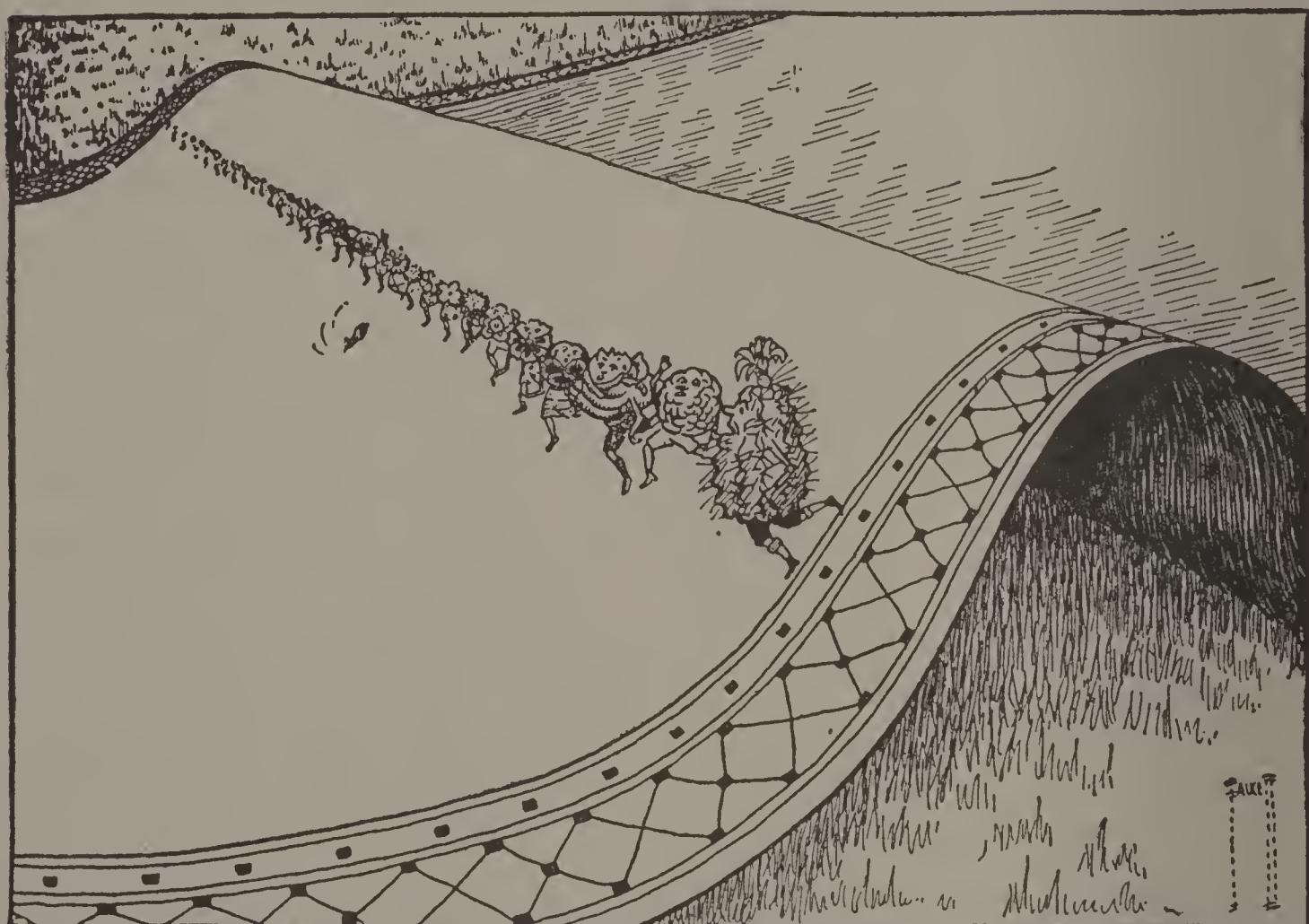
On and on they ran until Matthew Mole's fur coat made the little fellow so hot that great drops of perspiration began dripping from his nose, but he couldn't stop to complain. It was all that he could do to keep ahead of the big wave that kept pushing at his heels all the time. Once he did slip and fall flat upon his back, but quickly regained his feet when the wave rose still higher and caused him to turn a flip-flop that landed the perspiring little fellow squarely upon his hind legs. Yet, he only laughed and kept on running.

But the queer race didn't last very much longer, for Moon Queen saw that even the young folks were beginning to get a little tired, so she touched the top of the "Witching Wave" with her wand-star and began to chant:

"Zippy, zippy, zappy, zoo,
Witching Wave, go back into
Rajah's Rug from which you came—
We must play another game!"

Quicker than anybody could tell it, the huge wave in the Rajah's Rug dropped lower and lower until it finally

And something did happen—something that almost tumbled the entire party of young folks into a heap. The Rajah's Rug suddenly rose up behind them, just as a big wave at the seashore would do, and to keep from falling



THE WITCHING WAVE FOLLOWED SO CLOSELY THAT NOBODY COULD STOP.

everybody began running forward as fast as they could. The huge "Witching Wave" then continued to follow them so closely that nobody could stop, although the fairy had risen into the air high enough above the big rolling "wrinkle" to avoid being pushed by it. She was

but because they grew in the woods without any care or attention from people."

"Oh, look! It's beginning to get lighter!" exclaimed Dora Daisy, just at this juncture.

"And the grass is all gone!" added Danny Dandelion, who knew more about grass than any of the Flower Folks.

"Why, it has turned into a **RUG!**" joined in Minnie Morning Glory, as the light suddenly became so dazzling that the entire crowd of folks and Matthew Mole blinked their eyes and looked about in a puzzled sort of manner.

"You are right, Minnie, it is a Rug," explained Moon Queen. "In fact, it's really the Rajah's Rug, a most wonderful covering that will furnish us with lots of fun before the night is over. It was necessary for my wand-star to become very dim so that the Rajah's Rug could make its appearance without being seen until the fun is ready to begin. Remember that this marvelous Rug was sent to us by a Rajah in far-away India, a country in which you know many clever magicians live. We shall now walk upon it and see what happens."

The fairy then waved her wand and said:

"Rajah's Rug, the genie's slave,
Zipp! become a Witching Wave
That will roll us right along
To the Land of Fun and Song!"

"Sure, we will be patient," said Caleb Cactus. "Why, there wasn't anything to be afraid of, anyway."

"Huh! you are talking very brave since the fairy has told us there was no danger, but I didn't hear a single chirp from you before she had spoken," chuckled Rufus Rose.

"Yes, he was scared speechless!" laughed Danny Dandelion. "But don't anybody think that I was afraid at all for I am used to this kind of grass and wild scenery."

"Ha! ha! I notice that neither you nor Rufus said a single word before the fairy spoke," returned Caleb. "How about that—were you scared speechless, too?"

"Not in a thousand years!" said Rufus. "Don't forget that all of my people were once wild roses and lived out in the woods all the time. Why, I still have cousins who are just as wild as Danny Dandelion. You see, I have many more petals than these cousins have, but the extra petals were grown from the large number of stamens which I once had. You'll notice that I now have very few stamens, which, as everybody knows, are the little stems that stick up from the center of a blossom."

"You have told some interesting things about yourself, but to hear you boys talk to each other almost anybody would think that you were enemies instead of friends," laughed Moon Queen. "However, I might add that all of the Flower Folks here were once wild — not WILD in the way that we speak of dangerous animals,



"WHAT ON EARTH IS THE MATTER? ASKED
FANNY PHLOX

CHAPTER VIII.

FUN WITH THE WITCHING WAVE.

JUST after the Princess had ceased speaking, the air suddenly became very still and the fairy's wand-star began to get dim. Dimmer and dimmer it became, until the stars overhead became so much brighter than it that they furnished the only light to be had. The Prince and Princess, the Flower Folks, and even Matthew Mole who was so accustomed to darkness, turned toward Moon Queen with inquiring looks on their faces, but Fanny Phlox was the first to speak.

“What on earth is the matter?” she asked in a half-whisper, as the distant hoot of an owl added a weird touch to the stillness. “I’m not afraid of the dark, but this is getting rather spooky to me and I don’t see any fun in being scared!”

“And neither do I,” said Penelope Pansy.

“Nor I,” added Dora Daisy.

“Please let me have just a word,” interposed Moon Queen. “There isn’t any reason to be frightened while I am with you and very soon you will see the reason for this darkness. So just be patient and remember the fun that I have promised you.”

"Gee whillickens! Wonder if I got any dust on my nose when the wand-star woke me up!" exclaimed the Prince.

"Why, it does look rather PINK," said Princess Patricia.

"HONEST?" he asked.

"Yes, but it hasn't a star on it," she laughed.



"GEE WHILLICKENS! WONDER IF I GOT ANY
DUST ON MY NOSE?" EXCLAIMED THE PRINCE.

"I want to say that Matthew always has been welcome in our flower garden," remarked the Prince. "My Uncle John has told me of the many good things that the little fellow does wherever he goes, so I'm happy when I see his tunnel raise the ground in a funny sort of ridge. It shows sis and me that he is busy all the time."

"Well, I think that it's about time for Matthew to say something for himself," laughed Moon Queen. "Come on, tell us a little joke on yourself—tell us how you got that curious star on your nose."

"Ho! ho! that wasn't a joke on me," chuckled the odd little fellow. "Why, I wouldn't take anything for that pink star, although I did think it rather funny when I first got it. With it I can feel and see much better than ever before and, you know, I mostly depend upon my nose to feel my way through dark tunnels. What good are the biggest eyes in the world, if a fellow does most of his work under the ground?"

"But, go on, tell us how you got the star," urged Moon Queen.

"Your wand-star did it when we went to the Frolic Grounds with the vegetable folks," said Matthew. "You remember how I got some star dust on the end of my nose and I've been wearing this star ever since. Maybe I'm a policeman, for all policemen wear stars, although I have never seen one who wore his star on his nose!"

have often heard people say that I am very rough, but I don't intend to be so and I'm sure that I appreciate a favor just as much as anybody in the world. Please let me thank you again for your help."

"But you happen to be thanking the wrong party," laughed Moon Queen. "Look right behind you and you'll see your helpful friend."

"Why, that's Matthew Mole!" sputtered Caleb. "He didn't give me any help that I know of."

"He did it all," replied the fairy. "You were so excited you didn't notice that Matthew had dug one of his famous tunnels to a point directly underneath your body. He then dug around so near the surface that you easily pulled your spines from the loosened earth just a moment ago. That little fur-coated fellow is one of the best friends that you Flower Folks have, although many people still imagine him to be destructive because he sometimes raises a mound of earth above his tunnels that come near the surface. I shall never forget how the vegetable folks were frightened when I introduced Matthew to them, but how happy they were when he later saved them from the Cutworm Army."

"Then I must thank Matthew for being so thoughtful and kind," said Caleb. "For a long time I have known that he was a noted hunter of Cutworms and Beetles and other enemies, but not many of those creatures trouble me, so I haven't become well acquainted with him. Now I'm glad to know that he is a real friend of mine."

on them for help until you have helped yourself in every possible way."

"Good fairy, please don't forget that I'm stuck," spoke up Caleb Cactus. "I have called on myself, my friends, and now I call on you for help. Please give me a lift."

"Oh, I beg your pardon, Caleb," replied Moon Queen, with a smile. "Perhaps I have kept you waiting longer than you expected, but I'm glad to find that you have such a patient nature. Close your eyes for just a minute and you shall be free."

As Caleb closed his eyes she began to chant:

"Caleb Cactus, you are stuck,
But don't think you're out of luck,
For you have a friend who will
Set you free, if you'll keep still!"

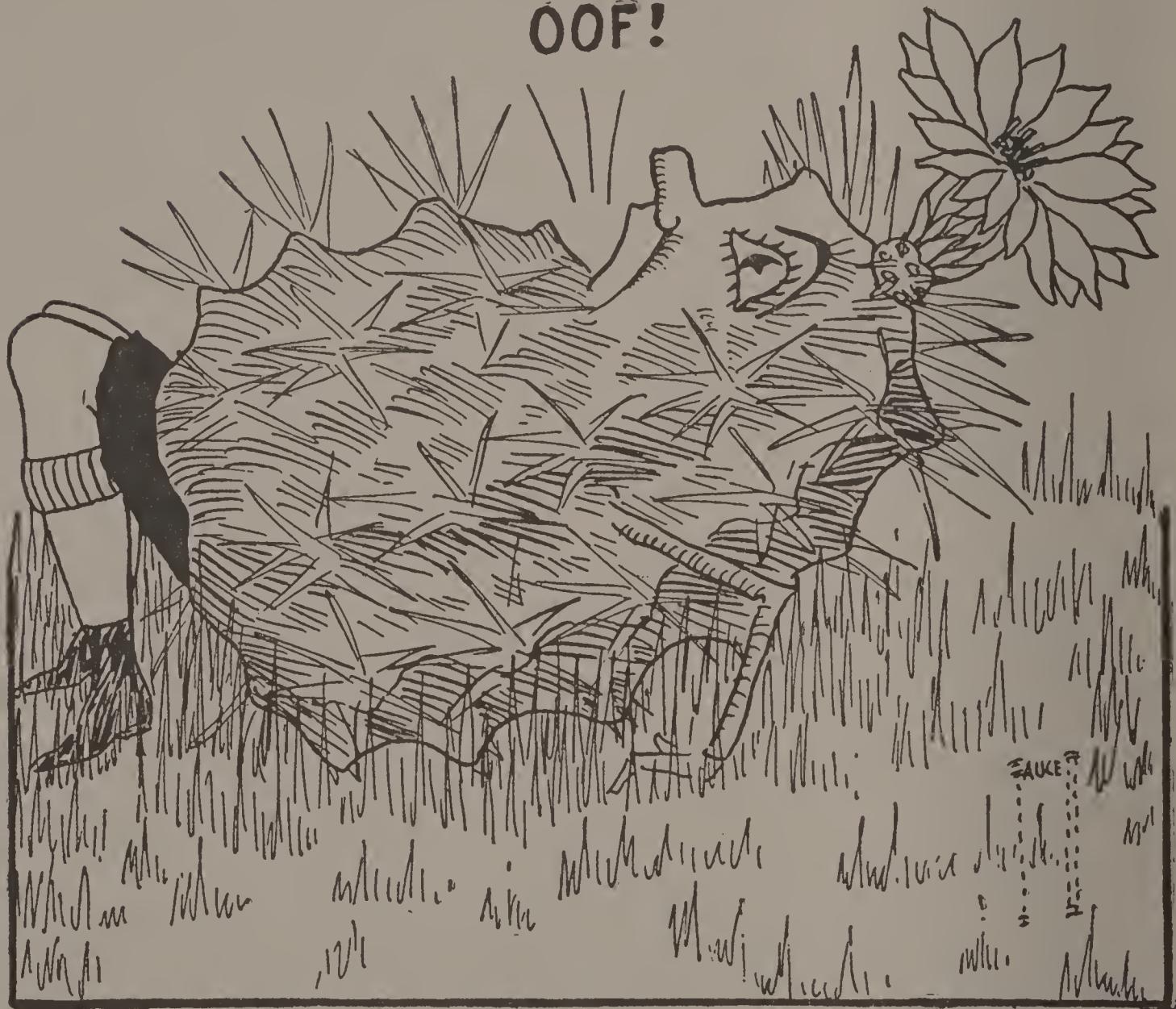
These words were no sooner concluded, when she added:

"Now, arise and thank the friend
Who released you, but won't send
You a bill for what was done
So you could join in the fun!"

The spiny little fellow opened his eyes and quickly arose to his feet without any assistance. Then he bowed low before the fairy and said: "I hardly know how to thank you enough for putting me on my feet again. I

trying to help yourselves without calling on anybody else," said Moon Queen. "You learned this valuable lesson in the garden, where each different flower must

OOF!



CALEB STRUGGLED DESPERATELY TO GET UPON HIS FEET.

look out for itself in order to live. I also noticed that Caleb tried in every way to regain his feet before asking any of you to help him. Always remember that it's a very fine thing to have lots of friends, but never call

CHAPTER VII.

THE WHY OF A CURIOUS STAR.

“WELL, you seem to be a Jonah, all right,” chuckled Rufus Rose, as Caleb struggled desperately to get upon his feet by pushing downward with both his hands and feet, but the harder he tried, the tighter he seemed to stick. “That body of yours has stickers all around it and no matter which way we pull you may get stuck again,” continued Rufus. “I suppose we’ll have to leave you here to take a nap while we enjoy the fun that the kind fairy has promised us.”

“No, we don’t wish to go anywhere without all the Flower Folks,” said the Princess. “Caleb may seem to be all ‘stuck up’ now, but he really is a fine little fellow and I’m sure that fairy Moon Queen will help him to get out of his trouble.”

“Oh, pshaw! Why on earth haven’t we thought of that before!” exclaimed Danny Dandelion. “Here we have been pulling and tugging at Caleb just to get him stuck in a different place every time, when the fairy need but say the word and he would be on his feet quicker than any of us could say ‘Jack Robinson!’”

“But it pleased me very much to see you Flower Folks

"Ha! ha! he is stuck tighter than glue!" laughed Henry Hollyhock. "Why wouldn't this be a good time for us to have a tug of war game?"

"That's a dandy idea!" replied Rufus Rose. "All the boys can join hands and pull Caleb's right foot, while the girls pull his left foot, and if we can't jerk him out, Caleb wins! Everybody ready, let's go!"

"Hurrah! WE WIN!" exclaimed Sweet William, as the steady pull of the Flower Folks finally loosened the grip of the spines and Caleb tumbled over flat upon his back.

"WE WIN," repeated Rufus Rose. "Why, can't you see that he is stuck just as tight as ever? The job is only half finished, for we must now catch hold of his hands and pull him upon his feet."

Caleb Cactus raised his knees and placed his feet flat upon the ground, at the same time pushing downward with his head as the flower folks began to pull. Then something very funny happened. The spines let go so suddenly that Caleb flipped forward and again landed upon his back! He was stuck once more.

only stop kicking your feet and waving your arms," replied Rufus Rose. "Those spines of yours have stuck me too many times for me to take another chance with them, and perhaps it would be best for me to leave you here unless you promise to be good in the future."



THE TUG OF WAR GAME.

"All right, come on, can't you see that I'm holding perfectly still," said Caleb.

After satisfying himself that the spiny fellow was actually still, Rufus said: "Here, Allen, you catch hold of Caleb's left foot and I'll catch hold of his right, then we'll pull together. One, two, three!" he counted, and both of them tugged with all their might, but the spines held fast.

Carol Castle just tell your father that you wish to play with all the other boys and perhaps he will give his consent. In the meantime, suppose that we begin to have some fun."

"All right, I'm ready for anything!" exclaimed Caleb Cactus. "Everybody watch me turn a flip without touching the ground with my hands! One! two! three!" he counted, before his funny, spine-covered body flipped up into the air.

But just as Caleb doubled up and was about to clap himself on the knee caps with both hands so that his body would turn over completely in the air, Danny Dandelion gave one of his wild laughs. This laugh evidently caused Caleb to forget all about clapping his knees, for instead of landing upon his feet, Caleb fell straight down and his shoulders struck the ground. Of course, the sharp spines were driven right on through the short grass and into the ground so far that Caleb's feet wouldn't come down. And there he stood upon his shoulders, while he kicked his feet back and forth in an effort to loosen the hold of the spines.

"Well, isn't somebody going to help me?" Caleb finally sputtered, as the rest of the Flower Folks stood at a respectful distance and laughed until the tears ran down their cheeks, for this was one of the funniest sights that they had ever seen.

"Allen Aster and I will try to pull you out if you'll

shorter and easier to remember. Somehow, I always liked the name 'Patsy,' and it seems to suit me just right for brother will tell you that I'm very fond of Irish potatoes."

"But I'm sure that we Flower Folks had much rather continue to know you as our Prince and Princess," said Rufus Rose.

"Indeed we had," added Penelope Pansy, her beautiful dark eyes shining with love for her little master and mistress.

"And so do I think that it's very nice for you to be a Prince and Princess," remarked the fairy. "Remember that some day both of you will have a great deal of money of your own, and just think of all the good that you can do with it. You really have a most wonderful opportunity to show other people that having such titles does not prevent you from being loving and kind to everybody in the world. So, I'd suggest that you please the Flower Folks and let them continue to call you their Prince and Princess."

"But I want to be a REAL boy, not a Prince!" protested Prince Philip.

"Why, you may be both of them at the same time," laughed fairy Moon Queen. "I have known many princes who were so interested in football and such things that they had to be constantly reminded not to forget that they were really princes. When you get back to

CHAPTER VI.

A MERRY TUG OF WAR.

"THERE is one thing that I don't like about this trip," remarked the Prince.

"Well, brother, you are certainly rather plain in your talk," interrupted the Princess, hastily. "Why, you should be ashamed to say such a thing when the fairy has treated us so kindly. I've enjoyed every minute of the time and I want fairy Moon Queen to know it, too!"

"Wait just a minute, sis—don't get so excited until you hear all that I was about to say," laughed the Prince. "I've also enjoyed myself just as much as you have with the good fairy and our Flower Folks, but I don't like to be called 'Prince Philip' all the time. I'm only plain Phil and I'd be happy if everybody would call me by that name. I don't want to be a prince any more. A prince must wear too many silk clothes and stand around like a statue wherever he goes. I want to get out and have some real fun like the rest of the boys that I see!"

"Oh, that's different, I beg your pardon for interrupting," replied Princess Patricia. "I really feel that way about my name and wish that everybody would call me 'Patsy.' I think it's a much better name, besides being



"I WANT TO GET OUT AND HAVE SOME REAL
FUN!" SAID THE PRINCE.

The Bumblebee's huge wings began to beat the air with a faster motion and the familiar buzzing sound was heard as his body began to move forward. Gradually, this body became smaller and smaller, and the buzzing fainter and fainter, until finally nothing of either could be seen or heard. Even Steven had obeyed his orders and was on his way.

In the meantime, the Prince and Princess and the Flower Folks gathered about the fairy and wondered what would happen next.

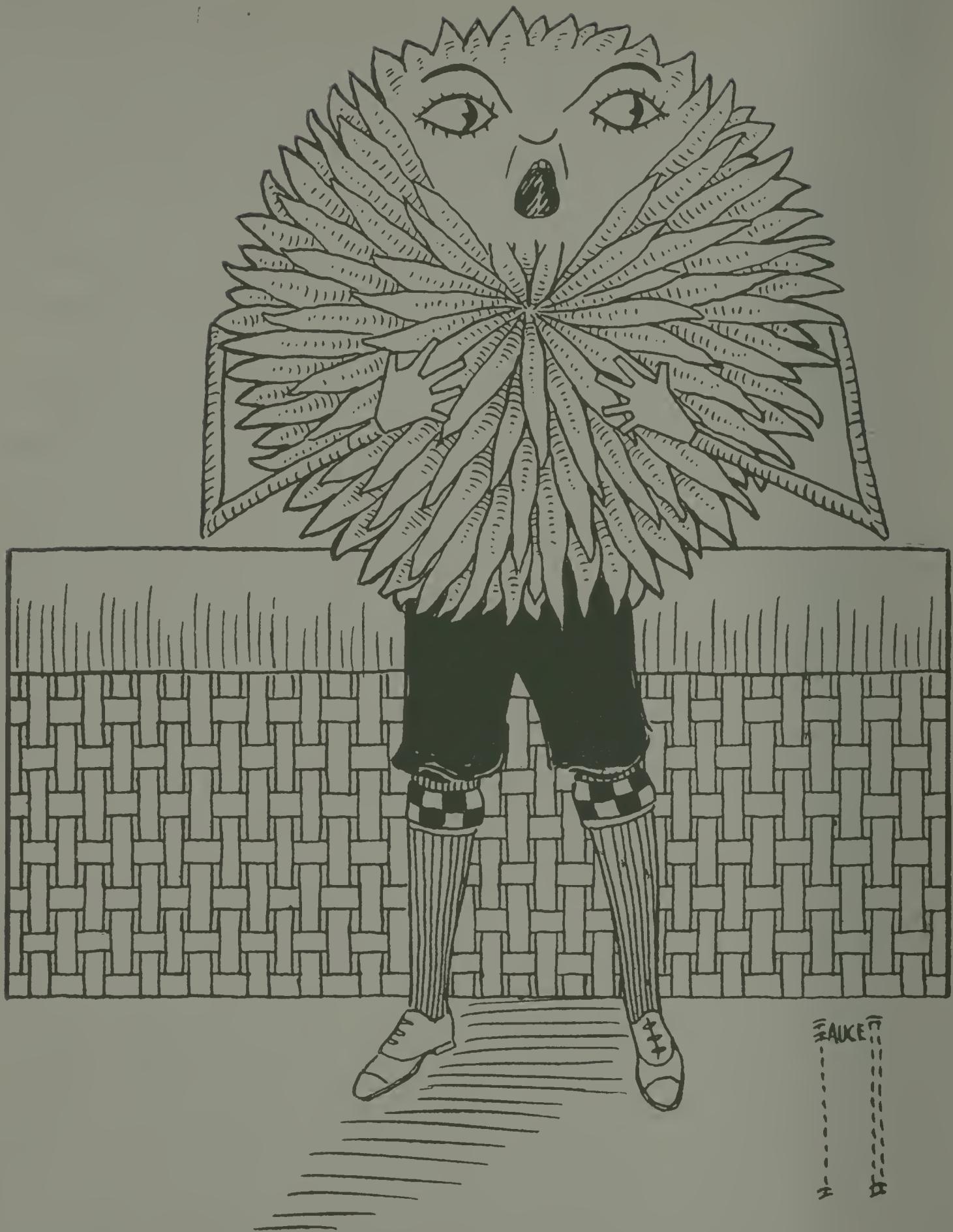
think that you also want to crowd out all our talk," laughed Allen Aster. "We cheerfully admit that you are wild, but, remember that the French people first gave you the name DENT DE LION, which doesn't sound quite as nice as Dandelion."

"Here we are on the ground once more and nobody seemed to realize when we landed," interrupted Moon Queen at this juncture, but there was no need for her to ask everybody to get out of the Ramble-Along. In less time than it takes to tell it, the entire party had tumbled from the basket and found themselves standing upon the most beautiful grassy spot that they had ever seen. Even by the brilliant light of the fairy's wand-star, just as far as they could see was nothing but grass, grass, grass.

"Why, if there were any trees in sight I'd think that this was the front lawn at Carol Castle," remarked Prince Philip, as he used his hands as an eye-shade while trying to see further in the distance.

"But we happen to be many, many miles from there at this moment, my dear fellow," replied the fairy, as she waved her wand toward the giant Bumblebee slowly moving his wings above them and said:

"Even Steven, you may go
To the Land of Sweet and Low,
But be ready should I call
For you and your 'carry-all!'"



"CERTAINLY, I AM A LITTLE WILD," REMARKED DANNY DANDELION.

“Or maybe he is tired out and we’ll take a nose-dive to the ground!” exclaimed Claude Carnation. “Say, wouldn’t it be fun to get a big bump like that?” Then turning to Rufus Rose, he added: “You’d better move away from Caleb Cactus or he may ‘tickle’ you again if we do hit anything!”

“Now, don’t any of you get excited,” cautioned Moon Queen. “Sally Sunflower has guessed right, for we are only going to land. Even Steven is merely using his wings as parachutes with which to glide down to the ground. He will land us so easily that we won’t know when it happens, so Rufus and Caleb needn’t get ready for another argument.”

“Yes, I can see the green grass, and, you know, I am very well acquainted with grass,” remarked Danny Dandelion. “I must say that I can grow around in the grass or anywhere there is a bit of earth for me to catch hold of. Nobody has to care for me—I look out for myself, although the Prince and Princess have been very kind to me. You folks are always glad to see me; the cook gathers my leaves to use as greens, and even poets have written beautiful poems about me, but farmers don’t like for me to raise up my head in their pastures. They claim that I crowd out the grass. Certainly, I’m a little wild, yet—”

“Well, don’t get so wild that you’ll continue telling us Flower Folks everything about yourself, or we’ll begin to

“You must not forget that you have a few stickers yourself,” replied Caleb. “True, you haven’t them with you now, but back in the garden you often catch hold of anybody’s hand that gets too close to your bush. It seems to me that roses who have stickers shouldn’t throw barber scissors!” he added with a laugh.

Then the subject was suddenly changed when Nell Nasturtium exclaimed: “Mercy me, I feel very chilly and my face is all wet! Why, it must be raining!”

“Oh, we are only going through a little piece of cloud and Even Steven is trying to play a joke on us by flipping the drops from his wings downward instead of upward or to each side,” said Moon Queen. “See, it feels warmer and the drops have stopped falling, but I’m surprised to hear any of the Flower Folks object to a little moisture. Most of you are always thirsty.”

“Maybe it wasn’t the moisture that Nell was thinking about,” chuckled Sweet William. “She might have been afraid that the rain would wash some of the pollen powder from her face.”

Everybody joined in the hearty laughs that followed this remark, but the laughing suddenly ceased when Henry Hollyhock looked upward and said: “Something must be wrong with Even Steven—his big wings have almost stopped buzzing!”

“Oh, goody! perhaps we are going to land!” added Sally Sunflower.



"I FEEL SORRY FOR EDGAR EAGLE," SAID THE PRINCESS

CHAPTER V.

WHIZZING THROUGH THE AIR.

“I KNOW just how Edgar Eagle was blinded,” said the Prince, as Moon Queen finished telling how birds often dash against bright lights at night. “Your wand-star made me so blind that I couldn’t see a thing for a long time. Edgar must have thought that he had bumped into a basketful of stars and all of them flew into his eyes at the same time!”

“But you must remember that you didn’t get such an awful bump on your nose, even after you said there were no fairies,” reminded Princess Patricia. “I’m sure that Edgar meant no harm to us, and his poor beak may be hurting him now. I feel very sorry for him.”

“And so do I,” added Laura Lily.

“Bah! I don’t feel one bit sorry for Edgar—I feel sorry for myself!” spoke up Rufus Rose. “He made Caleb Cactus bump into me for the second time, so I don’t see anything funny about that. Caleb may be all right, and I want to be friendly with him, but if he doesn’t visit the barber and have those stickers trimmed he mustn’t stay around in my neighborhood.”

“Perhaps you have heard of birds dashing into the windows of lighthouses, and even high buildings in the cities,” continued the fairy. “This often happens when the birds are returning to their northern homes, after spending the winter in the warmer southern countries.”



SOMETHING HIT THE RAMBLE ALONG.

Prince Philip. "The governess had read to us of enchanted woods and castles in which fairies lived, so I was wondering if we might see some of those wonderful things tonight."

"Perhaps you'll remember when we started out that I asked everybody to hold on tight and we would soon be somewhere," laughed Moon Queen. "That is all I'll say now, so just be patient and remember that a fairy always keeps her promises, and prepare for some surprises and adventures which I'm sure each of you will enjoy. We have the whole night before us, as it has only been about ten minutes since we left the flower garden."

The big Bumblebee above them was still buzzing along as fast as ever, when, suddenly, something hit the Ramble-Along so hard that everybody in the basket bumped into each other. However, Moon Queen quickly satisfied the anxious looks on the faces of the frightened passengers, as she laughed and said:

"Ho! ho! that was a good joke on Edgar Eagle, all right. He evidently heard us whizzing through the air and decided to investigate, but was blinded by my wand-star and bumped squarely into the side of the basket. He had no idea of bumping into anything, for Edgar has exceedingly keen eyes and is very proud of them, so you can imagine how surprised he was when the basket hit his outstretched beak. I don't suppose that he will go out flying at night again for some time."

joke as to give one," chirped truthful little Viola Violet. "Still, some of the biggest jokers I ever met have often been very poor joke takers. They liked to laugh at absurd things other people did, but seemed to think that they themselves never acted foolish enough to be joked about it. I think that fun is fun, no matter who happens to get the worst of the joke."

"I'm certainly glad that our flowers are such lovable things and get along so well together, but what puzzles me is where are we going," said the Prince. "Here we are buzzing through the air so fast that I can hardly get my breath, and yet nobody has said a word about stopping. Good fairy, are you sure that we shall get back to Carol Castle before eight o'clock, for if the governess should come into our rooms to awaken us and we'd be gone—oh, I don't know what might happen!"

"Why, I hadn't thought of that," added the Princess. "I'm sure that she would be almost frightened to death—and she is so good to us, too."

"Now, don't either of you be the least bit worried about not getting back home," replied Moon Queen. "Before eight o'clock, and, in fact, before the sun even rises, you shall be in your beds. In the meantime, let us enjoy ourselves in every way that we can and be thankful that Even Steven brought his Ramble-Along to us so quickly."

"But you forgot to tell us where we are going," insisted

"Huh! I don't care how hard it blows!" said Caleb Cactus, the single pink blossom on top of his spiny head waving back and forth as the Ramble-Along whizzed through the air like a bullet from a gun. "And I wouldn't care if the breeze was boiling hot and full of sand, either! My cousins out on the desert sit around all day in such a sandy, hot breeze. I could do the same thing, but I really prefer to live in the garden of the Prince and Princess. They treat me very kindly, although they do insist upon giving me too much water. You see, I'm accustomed to the desert life, so I seldom get thirsty."

"And while we're speaking of the wind, wouldn't Clarence Chrysanthemum make a regular snowstorm if his petals should get away from him?" chuckled Rufus Rose.

"Perhaps you had better be careful or some of your big red petals may leave you in a hurry, 'Mr. American Beauty,'" returned Clarence. "Anybody will tell you that I hold my petals longer than you can, even when the wind isn't blowing."

"Now, boys, don't get into any arguments," cautioned Moon Queen. "Everybody may tell as many jokes on each other as they please, but be just as ready to laugh at a joke on yourself as one about another person. Remember that you still have your flower natures, and flowers are always lovable things."

"That's right, it should be just as much fun to take a

CHAPTER IV.

OFF FOR SOMEWHERE.

THE happy party was no sooner in the basket than Even Steven's wings began to buzz as he arose from the grassy spot. Faster and faster went his wings until, finally, the motions were so close together that only a steady hum could be heard.

"Whoey! this is something new for me!" shouted Matthew Mole, so as to make himself heard above Even Steven's humming. "I've tunneled under the ground most of my life, and have spent some time on top of it, but this is my first flying stunt. Old Even Steven knows how to stir up a good breeze, all right. Say, I'm glad that my fur coat is buttoned on so tight, or else I might lose it in the big windstorm that he has made!"

"And it's lucky that the Flower Folks are so young, for a breeze like this would blow older flowers all to pieces," remarked Prince Philip. "Why, I have gone out into the garden after a storm and many of our most beautiful flowers would be lying upon the ground, their petals so scattered about and mixed up that we could scarcely tell which was which."

“But your wings wouldn’t wake up either of those young folks, for they are now very wide awake and are going with me on a wonderful trip. Perhaps you will also recognize some of the flowers around which you once buzzed when you were small, although I have changed them into little folks who are to enjoy their first voyage through the air.”

Then turning to Prince and Princess and the Flower Folks, she said: “Now everybody climb into the Ramble-Along basket and don’t forget that Even Steven is one of the best flyers in the world. No matter how fast he goes, remember, there is no danger—just hold on tight and we’ll soon be somewhere!”

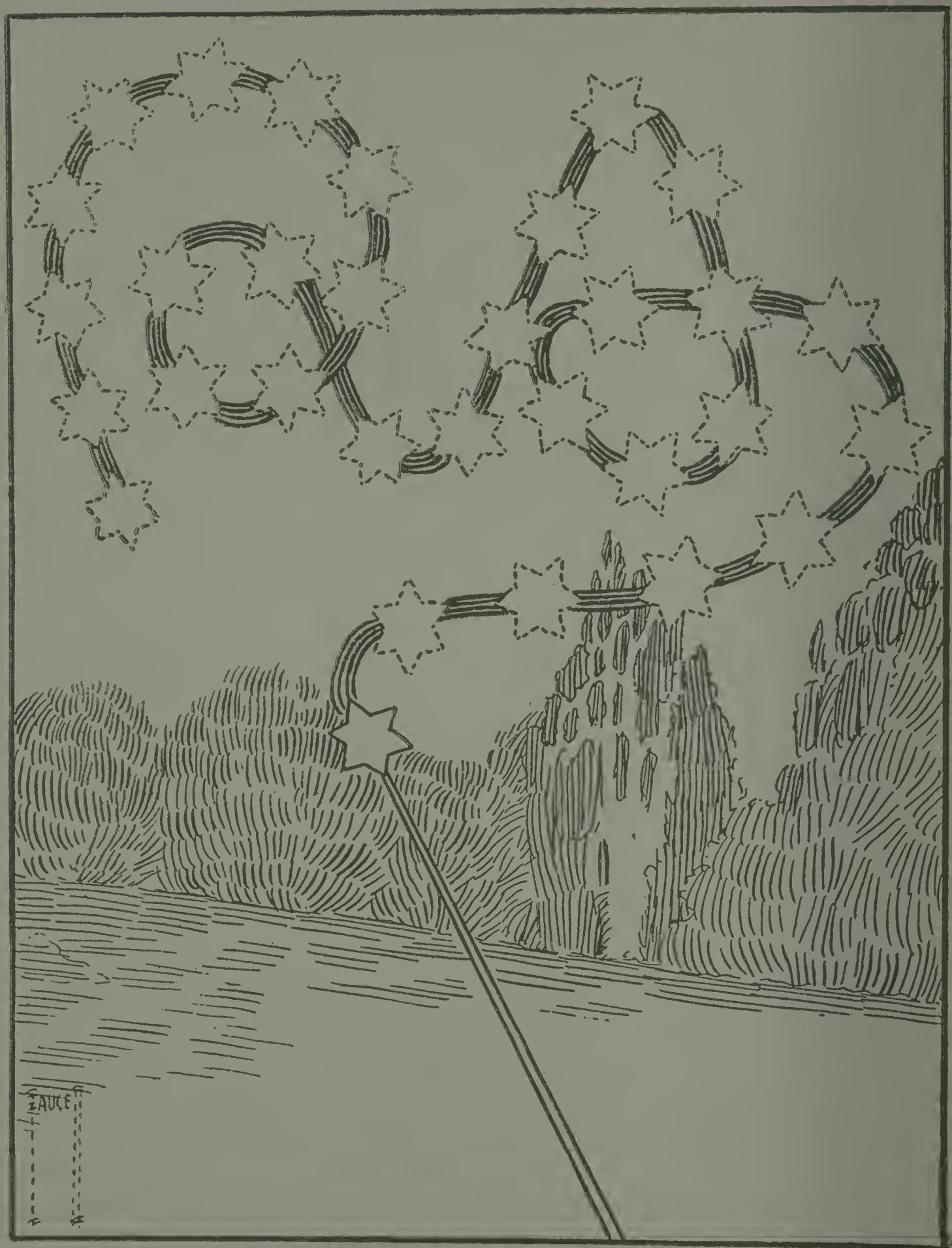
The fairy then waved her wand in such a way that the bright wand-star formed the letters R and A in the air above her head, repeating slowly as she did so:

“Even Steven, good and strong,
Come and bring your Ramble-Along—
Take us riding through the air
If you have the time to spare!”

Almost instantly a loud buzzing was heard and the largest Bumblebee that you could ever imagine alighted as gracefully as a feather upon the grass. Suspended from his body was a basket, something like the kind used with a balloon, but it could be seen that this basket in no way interfered with the movement of the huge insect’s wings. Both the Prince and Princess were a little frightened when the big creature alighted so near them, but when the basket was seen they realized that it must be the Ramble-Along for which the fairy had called. They were certain of this when Moon Queen said:

“My, but old Even Steven certainly answered my call in a hurry. He must have been very close to the garden or he couldn’t have made such a swift run, even with those exceedingly speedy wings of his that buzz louder than the motors of the largest aeroplanes.”

“Yes, indeed, I was close to the garden when I got your signal,” replied Even Steven. “In fact, I had just sighted Carol Castle and had slowed up my wings so as not to wake up the Prince and Princess.”



THE FAIRY'S WAND-STAR FORMED THE
LETTERS R AND A ABOVE HER HEAD

we could use the hose, but the water from it seems to 'disturb you too much. I'm sure that you don't like it, even when the spray is on."

"Wait just a minute, sis, I have something to say, now," interposed Prince Philip, as he dropped upon one knee before Moon Queen, while the Flower Folks looked on and wondered what was about to happen to their young master. "I wish to beg the kind fairy's pardon for being so rude when she came to my room to get me. You see, I had never believed in fairies and thought that sis was playing a joke on me when that bright light flashed in my face. Now I know how wonderful and kind the fairies really are.

"And I also beg the pardon of the Flower Folks for seeming to act so funny," he continued, with a laugh. "But please remember that the good fairy held the star on her wand so close to my eyes that I couldn't see anything but thousands of stars until just a minute ago. Why, I was as blind as a bat and had no idea where I really was until my eyes quit dancing."

"Now, let's forget everything but having a good time," said Moon Queen. "I freely forgive Prince Philip for acting as almost any boy would have done under the same circumstances, and I'm sure that his flower friends are only too glad to enjoy his company. Nothing makes me happier than to see other folks enjoying themselves, so I'll call a Ramble-Along and we'll be on our way."

to appreciate it at all. I, for one, apologize to the Prince and Princess for being so dumb!"

"And so do I," added little Flo Forget-me-not. "My face may look like I have the blues, but I was never happier in my whole life than I am right at this moment. I shall never forget the great happiness that our master and mistress have brought me."

"Yes, and although a Prince and Princess, they have given us plenty of nice, cool water to drink," interposed Penelope Pansy. "You know, I must have a great deal of water or else my face would shrivel and wrinkle just as if I were a hundred years old. Why, late this afternoon, when I was very very thirsty, our master and mistress made me so happy as I saw them coming down toward my bed with a sprinkling can held between them. Just as soon as the cool water touched my cheeks, I raised my head to thank them and I'm sure that they understood exactly what I meant, for the Princess smiled and said: 'Oh, Phil, see how Penelope appreciates a nice drink of water. She has raised her head and is looking straight at us. Why, I can almost hear her say, 'Thank you very much!'"

"And I remember how sweet you looked," replied Princess Patricia. "The gardener wonders why Phil and I always wish to be with you flowers so much, and the other day mother laughed and said that we might get stoop-shouldered from carrying the sprinkling can. Of course,



"I WAS NEVER HAPPIER IN MY WHOLE LIFE"
SAID FLO FORGET-ME-NOT.

CHAPTER III.

EVERYBODY IS SURPRISED.

NEITHER the Prince nor Princess could speak for a minute or two. Their eyes popped wide with wonderment, they only gazed from one little flower person to the other. The Flower Folks also were too surprised to speak, although their silence may be excused because they were not accustomed to talking.

Finally, Moon Queen broke the stillness when she laughed and said: "Well, don't you folks like each other, after all?"

"Oh, I'm just too delighted to speak!" exclaimed Princess Patricia. "Everything is so strangely wonderful, and I want to say so much that I guess all the words are jumbled up in my mouth so tightly that they won't come out!"

"A-a-and, I don't know anything to say!" stammered Prince Philip, his eyes still dancing about in a bewildered manner because of the wand-star having almost touched his nose.

"My, my, how foolish we Flower Folks are acting," spoke up impulsive Rufus Rose. "Here we are realizing a wish that we always longed for, and yet we don't seem

“Come, Prince Philip, you must go
Where the flowers wait below;
I am fairy Moon Queen, see,
You shall fly and follow me!”

In less time than it takes to tell it, both the Prince and Princess found themselves being whisked through the air so rapidly that nobody with the most powerful telescopes could have seen them. As lightly as any bird, they alighted upon the green grass of the garden and were surprised to see several odd little people gathered there. They were the Flower Folks.

SAUCE



THE PRINCE FOLLOWED THE STAR JUST
AS IF HIS NOSE WAS GLUED TO IT.

joke comes in, anyway! Sis, this is only one of your tricks to scare me after I said yesterday that I wasn't afraid of anything at night. But who on earth did you get to dress up like a fairy and stick an electric light in my face?"

"WHO DID I GET TO DRESS UP LIKE A FAIRY!" repeated Princess Patricia, her eyes lighting up with wondrous astonishment. "Why, Phil, you must be very careful what you say, for she happens to be a REAL fairy who wants us to come with her and then talk with our flowers that she has changed into REAL little people!"

"Ho! ho! do you ever expect me to believe that!" laughed the Prince. "Why, there is no such thing as a real fairy, so what's—"

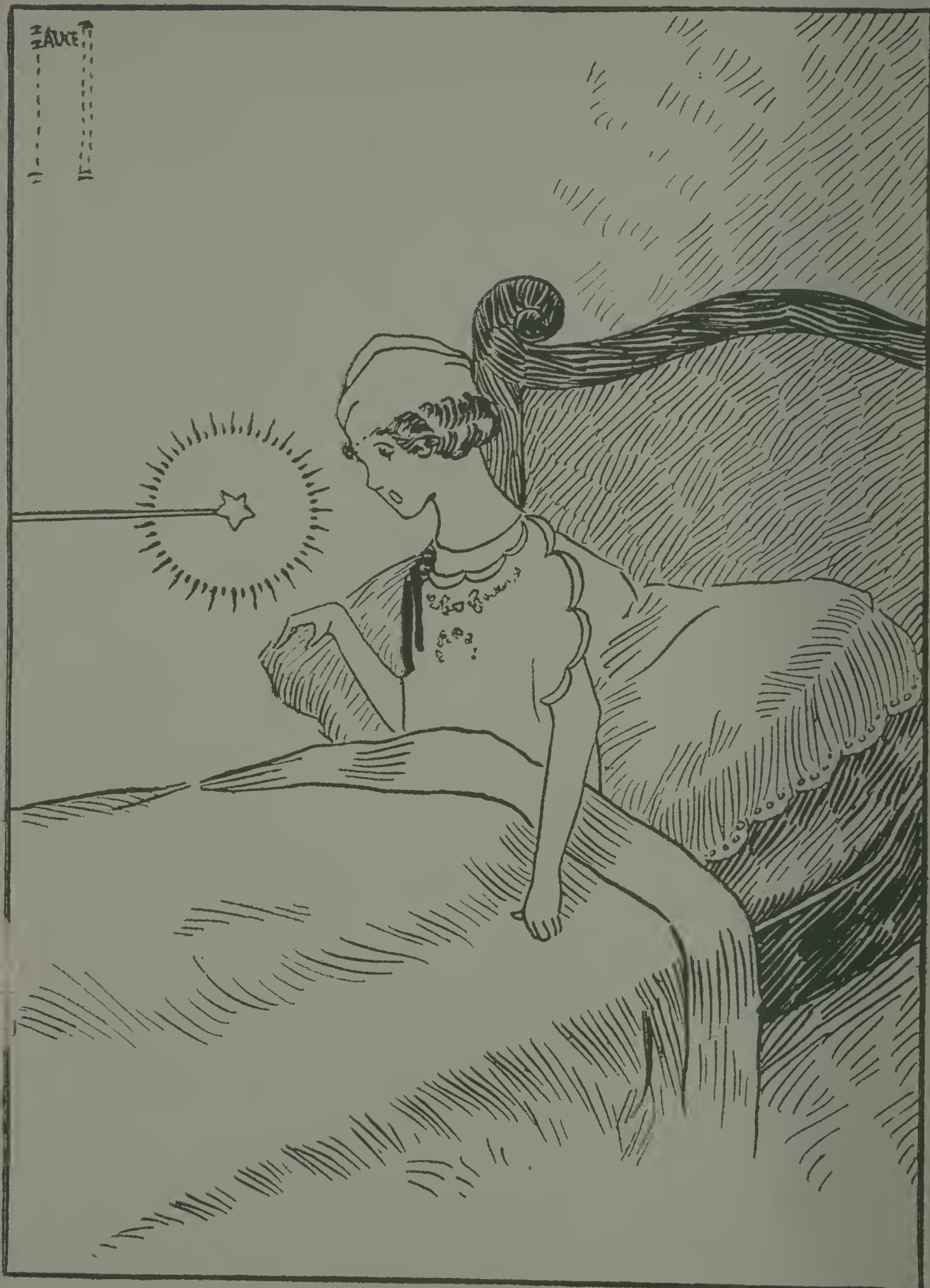
But whatever the Prince intended to say, he didn't get any further with it before Moon Queen suddenly extended her wand toward him until the brilliant star on its end almost touched his nose, and then slowly pulled the wand toward herself. Even Princess Patricia became excited when she saw her brother continue to follow the star, just as if his nose was glued to it, and didn't stop until he stood right before the fairy. His eyes were so close to the wand-star that they blinked and sparkled like diamonds, but he didn't say a word, not even when Moon Queen began to chant:

them—something I have always wished to do. May I look out of the window and see them?"

"No, dear, not until we have awakened your brother," answered Moon Queen. "Then we shall fly down into the garden and meet the flower folks, so follow me to Prince Philip's window and see how funny he acts when I flash my wand-star in his eyes. But don't laugh too loud, or you might awaken everybody else in Carol Castle."

The little Princess nodded her head very vigorously as a solemn promise that she wouldn't "smile out loud" too much, and then felt herself being wafted through the air. On through the window she went, floating gracefully along beside the fairy until they finally reached her brother's window. But she almost broke her promise when the wand-star was flashed just above Prince Philip's face and he leaped out of bed and began to run around the room just as if he was running a race with somebody. His mouth and eyes were wide open, but although he tried his best to yell, the only sound made was a comical sort of grunt, much like that of a pig being chased across the barnyard.

Then, suddenly, he awakened enough to recover his voice just as he caught sight of the fairy and his twin-sister laughing at his funny antics. "Ha! ha! I'm some sight, all right," he laughed, trying to join in the fun as best he could. "But what I want to know is where the



"OH, WHERE AM I?" EXCLAIMED THE PRINCESS

main right where you are and I'll get the Prince and Princess."

Quicker than a flash, the fairy rose into the air and alighted upon the window ledge of Princess Patricia's room. Then she reached in and held her wand-star just above the sleeping girl's face. The Princess immediately began to rub her eyes as Moon Queen said:

"Zickity! zickity! zat!
Wake up, little Princess Pat,
You've no wings but you can fly
To your flowers, if you'll try!"

"Oh, where am I!" exclaimed the Princess, as she blinked her eyes in the bright light of the wand-star and looked wonderingly at the glistening costume of the fairy. "No, I can't be in fairyland, for here I am still tucked in my bed, while everything in my room is just the same as when I went to sleep. Please, good fairy, tell me what has happened?"

"Now, don't be one bit frightened, my dear girl, for only came to take you to your flowers," replied Moon Queen. "They are now little people and have insisted that you come and talk with them."

"Oh, isn't that just wonderful!" exclaimed the Princess, as she clapped her hands together rapturously and began to scramble out of bed. "To think that I will hear my beautiful flowers really talk to me when I speak to

CHAPTER II.

A JOKE ON THE PRINCE.

"PERHAPS we shouldn't talk so much, or we may awaken the little Prince and Princess," cautioned the fairy. "Also, they might see the light from my wand-star and wonder if somebody was taking their beautiful flowers, so we had better hurry on. It's early in the evening, yet we want to have all the fun that we can before daybreak comes. Be very quiet for just a moment and I'll call a Ramble-Along to give us a lift."

"But I don't want to go anywhere without the Prince and Princess," said Peggy Pink. "Both of them have been so kind to us. They might come out to see us and be disappointed in not finding us here."

"And we never have been able to talk to them, except in the flower language," added Peggy's cousin, Claude Carnation. "Please have our little master and mistress go with us, so that we may really talk to them."

"Why, of course, they may go with us," replied the kind fairy Moon Queen. "It's really very thoughtful of you to remember them so tenderly. It is a pity that everybody doesn't always remember and try to return a kindness, just as you Flower Folks now wish to do. Re-

sorry that I misjudged you. It shall never happen again, and we'll continue to be friends, I hope."

"Everybody should be friends," replied little Matthew Mole.

me much worse than I bumped him, so maybe he owes me an apology! How about it, Caleb?"

"You bumped into me, not I into you," laughed the big fellow whose green-colored body is covered with sharp spines that are not pleasant to touch.

"I think that it is about time that we give our friend Matthew Mole a rousing welcome," suggested Moon Queen. "He has been waiting here for some time and not one of you have spoken to him. That isn't a very nice way to treat a friend, is it?"

"A FRIEND!" exclaimed Nell Nasturtium. "Why, that fellow almost scared me out of my wits by running one of his tunnels so near me that I almost tumbled over."

"But you should consider that I was only chasing several Cutworms which would have eaten you to death," spoke up Matthew. "If I happen to tunnel too near any of you flowers, you may be sure that I'm just trying to save you from your enemies. Sometimes I may give any of you a little scare, yet it seems to me that it's much better to be shaken a little by my digging than to be chewed up by a destructive Cutworm or other insects which I delight to catch."

"Oh, then I beg your pardon for being so rude to a real friend," said Nell Nasturtium, tenderly. "Of course, everybody makes a mistake sometimes, although I'm very

Flower Folks joined in a hearty laugh as she bumped against Rufus Rose so hard that he, in turn, bumped against Caleb Cactus. Of course, Caleb didn't mind the bump very much, but the sharp stickers on his body gave Rufus Rose several scratches that, luckily, didn't go through the skin.



MARY MARIGOLD BUMPED INTO RUFUS ROSE AND HE BUMPED AGAINST CALEB CACTUS.

"Oh, please excuse me, Rufus," said Mary, after she had recovered her balance.

"Why, certainly, it wasn't your fault," he replied. "But I don't know whether to ask Caleb Cactus for his pardon or not. That sticky fellow must have scratched

“And am I a REAL person, too?” asked Dora Daisy.

“Why, of course you are, and so are all the rest of your garden friends,” laughed Moon Queen. “You are now real Flower Folks and before the night is over you shall think yourselves to be the happiest people in the world. I have come down to entertain you in a manner that you never could enjoy while only a flower, so follow me and see what happens. But before we leave for our adventures I must ask another little friend to accompany us. He is already very much alive and I’m sure that all of you also will recognize him as a friend when he answers my call.”

The fairy then lowered her wand until the glistening star touched the surface of the ground and said:

“Ixy, ixy, trixy, tree!
Little friend, please come to me;
Wear your coat of softest fur—
See how quickly you can stir!”

The last word was scarcely out of her mouth when the nearby earth was scattered in every direction as a curious little fellow in a dark-gray coat thrust his still more curious nose above the surface and said, cheerily: “Hello, folks, did I get here quick enough?”

His funny pink nose was so near Mary Marigold that she leaped aside and screamed when she heard a voice that seemed to be right under her feet. Then all the



SHE BECAME A REAL PENELOPE PANSY

But when Moon Queen came from her far-away home in the sky, both the Prince and Princess were sleeping just as soundly as the garden blossoms that nodded so contentedly in the gentle breeze. They were dreaming of the many things which they expected to enjoy on the following morning.

The kind fairy first touched a sleeping pansy with her sparkling wand-star and something very wonderful happened. The blossom immediately dropped from its stem and became an odd little person—a REAL Penelope Pansy, whom anybody would recognize because of her smiling pansy-shaped face. And while little Penelope stood gazing about in a bewildered sort of manner, for she could scarcely realize what had happened to her, Moon Queen touched each of the other different blossoms with the wand-star and they also became real people.

“My, my, what on earth has happened to us!” exclaimed Rufus Rose, as he looked at all the curious little people that still stood around as if they were afraid to move, although they had legs and arms that could move just as well as those of any girl or boy. “Why, I can hear noises of every kind so much louder than when I was in the flower bed, and I can see, oh, so much better. Really, I believe that I can run and jump, or even ride a bicycle!”

“Certainly you can,” said the fairy. “You are just as much a person as anybody in the world, although a boy or girl might think you to be a rather funny one.”

FROLICSONE FLOWERS

CHAPTER I.

CAROL CASTLE GARDEN.

IT will be remembered that after fairy Moon Queen had put the vegetables back to sleep in their beds, she quickly vanished to her home in the moon. But she didn't remain there very long. You see, she had planned to entertain the flowers next, so on the following night we find her in Carol Castle garden.

She had selected this particular garden because it was known to contain the most beautiful flowers in the world. Princess Patricia and her brother, Prince Philip, lived in the quaint old castle that nestled snugly in this wonderful place of beauty and fragrance. The boy and girl were twins, and they especially enjoyed their daily walks among the flowers. Each flower seemed so much alive to them that they had pet names for the different blossoms, and little "Penelope" Pansy and "Allen" Aster were special favorites, although the other flowers were also loved and noticed.

To
MY WIFE
Who Gave Many
Valuable Suggestions
for Writing and Illustrating
This Book

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[THEY SEE THE WONDERFUL
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Profusely Illustrated

A. L. BURT COMPANY

Publishers

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CALEB CACTUS



PENELOPE PANSY



RUFUS ROSE



FLO
FORGET-ME-NOT



LAURA LILY



MARY MARIGOLD



SWEET WILLIAM



POLLY POPPY



ALLEN ASTER



PEGGY PINK



FANNY PHLOX



MINNIE
MORNING GLORY



CLAUDE CARNATION



VIOLA VIOLET



HENRY HOLLYHOCK



DANNY DANDELION



SALLY SUNFLOWER



CLARENCE
CHRYSANTHEMUM



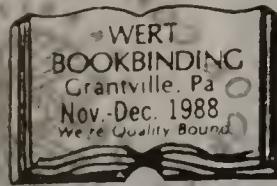
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Grantville, Pa
Nov.-Dec. 1988
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